



Killearn Lakes Elementary

PTO Meeting
January 17, 2023
6:00 pm

AGENDA

Attendance:

Principal Brenda Wagner, Assistant Principal Champayne Ricciardi, Principal in transition - Jenny Blair, Laurie Cox, Ressa Tomkiewicz, Allison Hartsfield, Karen Benavidez, Brittany Auclair, Taylor Wright, Katie Giagos, Lenard Franklin, Colleen Sellers, Whitnee Fuqua, Troy Diggs, Heather Jackson, Imogene Reddick, Teresa Horn, Lisa Daws, Bethany Mitchell, Siobhan Dominy, Kelly Dennis, Elena Miller (Hill), Martha Gautier, Michelle Garcia, and Laura Page

Welcome at 6:01 pm

Ressa Tomkiewicz

Intro – reminder to sign in on the attendance sheet. Welcome to our first PTO meeting of 2023. School year is pretty much halfway over! Special guest is school board member Laurie Cox

Principal's Report

Brenda Wagner

Thank you to Laurie Cox for being here. Thank you to everyone who came to the Meet and Greet of Jenny Blair! She is full time now!

Updates: Staffing – two people resigned... one resigned for medical purposes. Mr. Burden left because he got a job with the city. Hired a new paraprofessional for behavior. Hiring a second classroom specialist. Ms. Tiller is having her baby any second now (she is in the hospital right now). Sheina Hall is temporarily taking her place. Karen Allen is home from her heart surgery is who is recovering and Teresa Horn is covering for her.

Columns are being repaired and they have been loud and are apologetic. We are appreciative for getting it paid for to keep us safe.

Boosterthon is coming. Friday February 3rd is our fun run! Please plan to come out. It will be in the morning. Our goal is \$50,000. If we raise that much the students will get to "s'more" the administration (Principal Wagner, Principal in transition Jenny Blair, and Asst Principal Ricciardi). The money being raised is for technology and a school-wide project. Started that last year. Update blue playground (done), then improve sound system in cafeteria (still working on that), pole barn over the basketball court to protect the kids (still have to get specs and quotes for that).

Vice Principal's Report

Champayne Ricciardi

No students left who have to take the PM2 for FAST testing. Third through 5th grade should be able to see the students score (if not then give it some more time). Work in progress as they determine

percentiles. PM3 will be at the end of the year and will be like the FSA. It is like the retention data point... show what you know. They will need to take it seriously.

Second test the kids had it down pat and it went more smoothly.

Principal in Transition's Report

Jenny Blair

Thank you to everyone for coming. What is the most different about elementary? Everything. I have never opened as many apple juices and milk in my life. Or seen as many lost teeth. Ordered her costume for the 100th day of school and she is very excited.

School Board – District 4

Laurie Cox

Just elected to schoolboard. Lived in this community her entire life. Went to Auburn. Taught for 36 years... at Kate Sullivan for 12 years and Roberts for 21 years. Going to all the schools within her district and meeting with PTO and administration. Wants to hear from us anytime. Went to Springhill? or Springwood? Elementary (only Title I in our district) and they are trying to get a school store started for behavior and could use a little assistance. What we do to support our teachers is amazing. If a teacher feels valued they love to come to work so she is not diminishing what we do, but that school could really use some help. Laurie can be reached at CoxL@leonschools.net (850-766-0678). She is an open book and will listen to all our concerns and needs.

Share Night Update

Katie Giagios

(out of order of agenda because Katie has to leave the meeting early)

Skate World – January 31st 5pm-7:30pm – 100% if 50 or more kids come. Promote Promote Promote!! Already dropped off 800 stickers, 800 flyers, and coupons for teachers. Will give the check that night. Don't forget to tell the kids to wear their long socks, but you can buy them there for \$5 (and they are neon and glow in the dark!). Plan to send it all home next Friday.

Dave's Pizza Garage – buy vouchers online (\$2 per pizza or \$4 per family pack). We pick a date (two-week window). Parents will login in to KLES PTO to purchase vouchers. Redeem them anytime. Katie will get with Karen once she gets more details.

Hot Wheels vs. Globetrotters - discussion about how the Globetrotters was not well attended last year. However, a monster truck show might be too smoky and too loud for smaller children. Maybe the girls won't be interested in the Hot Wheels.

Texas Roadhouse was a bust – horrible to work with. They sent the flyer late and then had to have tons of corrections to the flyers. We only made like \$20 on that fundraiser. December share nights have been a bust for the past two years.

Check for \$195 from Dragons Eat Tacos event will be here by the end of the month

Tallahassee Nurseries and Frother's Daughter (will do 20%) to do a combined Share Night in the Spring.

Moe's is probably what the plan is for March as a quick regular Share Night

Any ideas for April or May? April will probably be Globetrotters. Jeremiah's Ice was something we did last year (made like \$50) and maybe it is because of the distance. Could do Sweet Frog again.

Always open to new ideas: a good day to do Share Nights is the night the report cards go home.

Board Member Reports

Director of Finance

Allison Hartsfield

Income from Box Tops - \$85.60, \$93.51 - AmazonSmile, School Supply Kits - \$600, \$50 (donation matching). Two new business partners (mentioned last time, but we just cashed their checks). Kona Ice gave \$300 and \$182.50 from Nothing Bundt Cakes from Fall Festival. Yearbook ads (\$48.25). Can buy ¼ to ½ page ad and Taylor was concerned because last year parents got turned away because we ran out of space

Deposited checks from 2022 Share Nights

Expenses: Publix (for table decorations and drinks for Friendsgiving), holiday luncheon for the teachers (Moe's), bought some new supplies for the school store, and paid to have our taxes done.

Directors of Fundraising

Karen Benavidez, Jamie Sheehan

Nothing to report at this time

Director of Communications

Brittany Auclair

Karen Benavidez made a motion to approve the minutes from the November PTO Meeting. Taylor Wright seconded.

Business Partner Coordinator

Taylor Wright

Nothing to report at this time

Volunteer Coordinator

Jennifer Griswold

Holiday Giving was a huge success thanks to Jamie!

Providing snacks for faculty meeting on Thursday – sign up genius filled up quickly

Boosterthon – will have a water station and will need volunteers to hand it out (no other volunteers needed)

Field trips – remind teachers to email Jen Griswold when parents volunteer to chaperone

In March we will need field day volunteers as well as book fair volunteers

Old Business

Ressa Tomkiewicz

Campus enhancement question that we discussed last time. Jessica Cain is working on the project. She is working with Heinz Nursery and will work with volunteer coordination to keep it maintained. The upkeep is the hardest to oversee the maintenance of those beds. Next meeting, we will have more information. Taylor says that Jessica is waiting on her to contact someone she knows who can assist in maintaining the garden. Could reach out to scouts to help maintain the area or even pick a day and have some of the middle schoolers who need civic hours come help.

Ms. Horne wants to know if there are funds to have a gaga ball pit on the primary playground.

New Business

Ressa Tomkiewicz

Valentine's Day – Elena Hill has a surprise to show our teachers how much we appreciate them!

Teacher Appreciation planning, father/daughter events, 5th grade graduation

Teacher Reports

Lead Teachers

K - Reddick

39 years teaching and she still loves it! People and animals unit. Telling a story... folktales and fairy tales. 30 sight words, numbers 1-10, subtracting and adding. Talking about weathers and seasons. In Feb will start famous Americans and symbols. Looking forward to Fun Run! Showed some kindergarten projects.

1 – Sellers

Mr. Tricky “Y” and steals the sound of “l” and “e”. Couple of weeks will have “R” Pirate's Day. Will be learning about America. In math they are working on place value. About to start working on Famous American projects where they come up in front of the class and share.

2 – Fuqua

About to kickoff Super Bowl reading challenge. Split the class into teams and after two weeks will calculate who wins. Also suggesting they read Sunshine State Book. Doing cookbooks that the kids are excited about. Now doing three-digit addition and subtraction. In Science, states of matter. Famous African American women in Social Studies.

3 – Barlowe

Finishing up division and about to start fractions. In Science they are doing animal research projects on PowerPoint. Making habitats in the classroom (not at home). Social studies they are studying MLK and Abraham Lincoln. Just finished Freckle Juice and some classes are doing a novel study with Because of Winn Dixie. Putting together class quilts with what they are doing. Fun things planned for Literacy Week next week.

4 – Garcia

No cute projects to show. Novel study with Tuck Everlasting and finished a poetry unit. Florida History Museum is closed for renovation so they are coming to the kids next week. Preparing for St. Augustine trip in April and getting excited. In math they have moved on to fractions. Reflex helps with speed facts such as addition, multiplication, etc. and just purchased an update with fractions. Lexia lady comes around with certificates and the kids love that and the bracelets for reading the rainbow.

5 – Jackson

Reflex has been great. Language arts, argumentative or persuasive text. American Revolution in social studies. Making a mixed number into a fraction with Swoop there it is! Just started the solar system in science. Showed video of Mars Rover and working on their planet sales projects and persuade why you should buy their planet. Kaisley Gettings participated in the district spelling bee. Joshua Tomkiewicz competed with his Tropicana Speech. Max and Mia did essays on Martin Luther King, Jr.

Special Area

Kelly Dennis

Music – learning about instruments in orchestra. K/1 – working on musicals (that will be in March)

Art - K/1 plains, 2/3 Abstract, 4/5 Stained glass/Gothic architecture

K/1/2 – Media (Scholastic Book Fair in March) and 3/4/5 – Guidance (pillars of character)

PE – Hockey unit and starting to plan Field Days (which are March 9 and 10)

Open Forum/ Q&A

Ressa Tomkiewicz

Adjourn Meeting at 7:03pm

Ressa Tomkiewicz

Lot of good questions today and good information!